



ON Nashville!

Issue 7

June 2003

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ON Nashville is published by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods for citizens of Nashville and Davidson County.

You're Invited...

to the
**Mayor's
1st Day Festival**

August 10, 2003
2-5 p.m. at the
Gaylord Ent. Center

Join us for a fun-filled
celebration of schools,
children, and parents!



Mayor Purcell presents State of Metro Address, announces a balanced budget

On Thursday, May 22, 2003, before a crowd of approximately 935 Nashville business and government community leaders, Mayor Bill Purcell gave his annual state of Metro address. The speech included a brief outline of the Mayor's plans to improve Davidson County's affordable housing, including the formation of a task force. Mayor Purcell noted that since 1999 11,103 units marked as affordable housing stock have been built or restored in Davidson County.

In an effort to communicate his commitment to helping downtown develop into a more residential community, Purcell said that he would draft legislation that would give tax benefits to developers building housing downtown in areas that don't benefit from the tax increment financing currently in place.

Other announcements included the building of youth-only areas at five shelters, a project that will help homeless shelters become more child-friendly, and the success of the new recycling program, which Mayor Purcell reported to have the highest participation rate of any voluntary program in the country.

Mayor Purcell also revealed that he would present a balanced budget to the Metro Council- one that would not require a tax increase. The \$1.35 billion operating budget is 3%, or \$40 million, more than was budgeted for fiscal year 2003. The main recipient of the increase is public schools who will receive an additional \$25 million, bringing their budget to \$503 million. This increase will pay for 42 additional teachers at the middle school level, 94 new teachers in the English Language Learners program, 14 additional guidance counselors, 10 assistant principals, and an increase in the amount of money for school supplies per student.

While many local and state governments across the country have been hurt by budget cuts and rising health-care costs for employees, Metro employees will get a raise under this budget, and an additional \$10.4 million will be set aside to keep up with health-care costs. The budget also includes an additional \$1.1 million for police overtime to help with traffic and policing, especially at community and sporting events.

Metro Council could vote on the proposed budget as early as June 24.

Take NOTICE: There's a New Program at Codes

Neighborhoods Organized To Initiate Code Enforcement (NOTICE) is a new community support program designed to help citizens identify and report codes violations in their neighborhoods. The NOTICE program empowers citizens and allows them to work together with the Codes Enforcement staff.

Neighbors can now become direct participants in the inspection process that helps improve and maintain their own neighborhood. However, the program is only open

to neighborhood associations or groups. Neighborhoods wishing to participate should identify six to twelve group members who will form their Volunteer Inspection Team and submit an application to the NOTICE program.



For more information contact Bill Penn with the Property Standards division at 862-6516 or email bill.penn@nashville.gov.

Neighborhood Response Team News

Metro Government is taking a proactive approach to cleaning up neighborhoods in the Nashville and Davidson County area. The Neighborhood Response Team (NRT), which is comprised of representatives from various Metro Government departments including Beautification, Codes, Fire, Health MDHA, NES, Planning, Police, Public Works, Sheriff's Office, Social Services and Water, and administered by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, collaborate to coordinate a systematic approach to handling, responding and managing neighborhood audits.

As part of these initiatives, each department is responsible for specific duties. The Codes and Health Departments conduct residential property inspections in the audit area over a period of 90 days. The Public Works Department fills potholes and cleans

alleys and the right of way (ROW). NES is responsible for conducting street light inventories. Metro Water Services conducts flow tests and paints hydrants in the area. The Police Department performs sting operations for prostitution and drug activities while Beautification and the Sheriff's Office remove bulk items from residential properties. Other departments are available for assistance where needed.

To date, NRT initiatives have been conducted in North Nashville (September 2002), South Nashville (January 2003) and most recently in East Nashville (May 2003). For more information about the NRT initiatives, go to www.nashville.gov/neighborhoods/.

Neighborhood Happenings

Neighbors Planning Neighborhoods: Health Department Training

Saturday, June 21,
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Metro Animal Services
Community Room
5125 Harding Place

Jefferson Street United Merchants Partnership Jazz and Blues Festival

Saturday, June 21,
12:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Watkins College of Art & Design's Summer Community Education and Enrichment Program: for ages 4 - 18

July 7 - 18, 2003

For more info. call 383-4848

Inaugural Riverbank 10K Run & Family Fun Run/Walk

July 12, 2003

For more information visit
www.nashvillestriders.com.

Night Out Against Crime Neighborhood Hero Awards

July 29, 5:30 p.m.

Millennium Maxwell Hotel

First Day of School Festival

Sunday, August 10

First Day of School

August 11

Metro Council Meetings

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month

7:00 p.m. Metro City Hall



West Nile Virus Facts

What is West Nile virus?

West Nile virus is one of several mosquito-borne viruses in the United States that can infect people. Mosquitoes become infected with West Nile virus (WNV) when they feed on infected birds.

What are the symptoms of West Nile virus infection?

The vast majority of people that become infected with the West Nile virus have no illness or experience only a mild flu-like illness that includes fever, headache and body aches lasting only a few days. Less than one percent of those infected may develop meningitis or encephalitis, the most severe forms of the disease, which occurs primarily in persons over 50 years of age.

How is the West Nile virus spread?

West Nile virus is spread to humans by the bite of an adult infected mosquito.

What can you do to protect yourself?

The best way to protect yourself is to keep mosquitoes from biting you. During mosquito season (generally April through October) limit outdoor activities between dusk and dawn. If you are outside when mosquitoes are prevalent, wear protective clothing and use a mosquito repellent that contains DEET.

For more information:

<http://www2.state.tn.us/health/FactSheets/wnv.htm>

Get Involved with Healthy Nashville 2010 this Summer!

Community members and neighborhoods are encouraged to become a part of Healthy Nashville 2010, a community based public health initiative.

Healthy Nashville 2010 will meet with your association, bring surveys for your members to complete about health in Nashville, and conduct neighborhood discussions to form a Vision for Healthy Nashville 2010.

Contact Healthy Nashville 2010 by calling Judy Dias at 615-340-5641 or by visiting healthweb.Nashville.gov/healthyn2010.

Don't Forget to Look For:



Night Out Against Crime
Neighborhood Festivals
throughout the city August 5th

2003-2004 Community
Enhancement Grant Information
in your mailbox this July

Deadline for new neighborhood
groups to register with MOON for
grant application is July 31st.

Neighborhood Training Institute

Emergency Preparedness

July 19, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm and July 29, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Don't Bug Me! (West Nile prevention)

July 21, and July 31, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Storm Water 101

August 12, 6:00 - 8:00 pm and August 18, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Community Policing Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

August 16, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Opening the Door to Home Ownership

September 15, 6:00 - 8:00 pm and September 23, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Be Safe - - Stay Safe: Crime Prevention

September 22, 6:00 - 8:00 pm and September 30, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Generating Resources: Keys to Successful Grant Proposals

October 06, 6:00 - 8:00 pm and October 18, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**ALL CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT THE
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, DOWNTOWN BRANCH**



Bill Purcell, Mayor

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ON Metro Departments...

Summer's here and it's time for barbecues, swimming pools, and all types of outside activities. Now's your chance to enjoy the weather, but watch out for pests! The Health Department's Vector Control Division offers many services to the Nashville Davidson County community such as monitoring and controlling rodents, mosquitoes, bats, snakes, and other pests. They also offer *The Bug Club*, an educational program for school age children to review vector control issues and participate in events.

Since protection from the West Nile Virus is a top priority this year, Vector Control has provided some tips to help minimize mosquito breeding and biting.

- Window and door screens should be free of holes to block mosquitoes from entering living areas.



- Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water. Reduce or eliminate such breeding grounds by removing water from discarded tires, buckets, toys, birdbaths, rain gutters and down spouts, and other areas where standing water is present.
- Use mosquito repellent when spending time outdoors.

- Use of insecticides will safely kill mosquitoes and their larva.

So get outside and enjoy activities with your family, and keep these tips in mind for a healthy summer!

Davidson County residents may register vector complaints by calling 340-5668 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office is located at Lentz Public Health Center, Room 201, 311 23rd Avenue, North. For more information on the mosquito spraying program and other services offered by the Vector Control Division of the Health Department, please visit http://healthweb.nashville.org/env/env_vector_control.html.